❖The Mat-Su Monitor❖

Volume 1 No. 13 April 28, 1994

The Student Newspaper of Mat-Su College, Palmer, Alaska

MSC To Have New School Director By August

A selection committee has been appointed to begin the process of selecting a new School Director. The current School Director, Glenn Massay, has announced that he is retiring.

The committee is made up of about 11 members--a student representative, Mark Ewing; classified rep., Bette Belanger; APT rep., Debbie Dickey; and faculty reps., Gloria Hensel, John Rogers, Barb Mishler and Will Miles.

Barbara Tullis, Faculty Services Manager from the Academic Affairs Office is coordinating the affair and Alice Snodgrass is the representative for the college Advisory Council Committee. A dean from UAA and faculty members from Kodiak and Anchorage campuses are also serving on the committee.

Resumes are being accepted and the board will be spending much of its time reviewing them.

If it is anything like when Chancellor Gorsuch was selected, the committee will be going over numerous applications. They will first seek to eliminate the ones that do not meet requirements, then start the painstaking process of examining each of the applications that are left, eliminating applicants until they reach a final decision.

The process could take many months but Chancellor Gorsuch wants a new director for MSC selected by August.

There was some past speculation that an interim person would be selected to serve as director until a permanent one could be found, but that will not happen. The current director, Glenn Massay will continue to serve MSC until August.

Glenn Massay, MSC's School Director, has announced that he is retiring after 37 years in the teaching business. He will remain in the position through the summer. A new director should be appointed by August.

Skill Center Instructors Honored

by Cathy Smith

Carolyn Covington and Gloria Hensel, mainstay of the Skill Center/Office Technology community, were honored by a group of students at a luncheon at Colony Inn in Palmer.

They were presented with an office chair and foot stool in the hope of making their many hours in the Skill Center more comfortable.

These two women are always there for any student that needs help. Their patience and understanding have meant the difference between success and failure for many students.

Many people are looking to

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The staff at the Mat-Su Monitor welcomes our new editor, Amy Menerey to the position. Amy is a Journalism major minoring in Art and English, a Valley resident and mother of three.

OPINION

I wasn't going to, but...

By Kathleen Murphy

I wasn't planning on referring to my last editorial, but The Monitor received so much response as a result of it that I feel I must. I expressed questions concerning the actual amount of class time of a 3 credit class. When the class meets once a week, it meets for 2.5 hours. I was curious why it didn't meet for 3 hours, since it is called a 3-credit-hour-class and posed the possibility that students were getting ripped off for class time that they paid for.

You--the readers answered my questions and I am glad that you did. You see, I wasn't sure if anyone was actually reading the school paper, mainly because it didn't seem to be getting much feedback. Now I know that not only are people reading it--they are actually paying attention and are concerned enough to get involved with it. It's good to see members who care so much about our college that they feel a need to defend its policies against an attack.

I wanted The Monitor to be a voice of its members and I hope that students, faculty and staff will feel that they can voice opinions and concerns through it, and receive feedback to them as I did on my last commentary.

This is the last paper of the semester. Next fall a new editor will fill my shoes and I know that she will bring a fresh perspective to the newspaper. I want to thank all of you who continued to read The Monitor throughout the 94/95 school year, for you are its true supporters and members.

Letters to the Editor

More research in order prior to opinion

To the Editor,

I am writing in response to the Opinion by Kathleen Murphy in the March 21st Monitor. According to the 1993-1995 MSC Bulletin (page 60), "MSC/UAA academic policy has established the following minimum contact times (actual class time).

Most lecture/discussion courses require a minimum of 750 minutes and a minimum of 1,500 minutes completed outside the classroom (homework) to award 1 credit.

Some courses require more than 1,500 minutes completed outside the classroom. One contact hour is defined as 50 minutes."

Fifteen weeks of school times 50 minutes of contact equals 750 minutes. Multiply this by 3 credit hours and it comes to 2,250 minutes of actual contact time if you attend all classes.

I ask Kathleen Murphy to be more careful in her research so it reflects accuracy before stating her opinion.

Joan Tower
MSC Student

Editor should check out the facts

Dear Editor,

I would like to respond to Kathleen Murphy's "Opinion" in the March 21 issue of The Mat-Su Monitor. Kathleen expressed her concern about the actual contact in a 3-credit hour class. In reality the class only meets for 2 hours and 45 minutes, a shortage of 15 minutes. She felt she was getting "ripped off" of potential learning time.

Kathleen, as Editor of a college newspaper, you should know the importance of checking out the facts before making statements that may need

see Check it Out *on page 6*

STAFF MEMBERS OF THE MAT-SU MONITOR

Kathleen Murphy--Editor
Carolyn Long--Arts Editor
Amy Menerey--Copy Editor
Michelle M. McGehee--Staff Secretary
Cathy Smith, Joan Tower--Guest Columnists

The Mat-Su Monitor welcomes letters to the editor as well as guest columnists. Please see personnel in the Student Government Office for more information or drop material in our mail box at the College or mail to PO Box 2889, Palmer, Ak., 99645.

ARTS PAGE

ANNUAL STUDENT JURIED SHOW

By Carolyn E. Long

The annual Mat-Su College Juried Student Art Show opened April 17 in the college atrium and will run through May 12. Hours are 8 A.M. to 10 P.M. Monday through Friday and 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. on Saturday. Juror for the show was Deborah Tharp, professor of photography at the University of Alaska, Anchorage.

Although small, the show reveals the expertise of the art students at Mat-Su College. Karin Moell won Best of Show and Best of Metals with "Legends of the Faults," a three-part mixed metals and enamel neck-piece. In this work, the extreme textural and organic treatment of the metals is complemented by the smoothness and regularity of the enamels, beads and chainwork. It is at once graceful and yet intriguing in its roughness.

Moell also received Best of Fiber for "Back to the Woods," a floor piece composed of branches wrapped in large rolls of light brown handmade paper. She won Best of Mixed Media with "Handbound:Handbook," a book made of handmade paper, wire, twine and a small metal hand. The pages are wrapped in twine and pierced with several big brass bolts which prevent them from being opened. The little hand, which is wrapped in wire, is placed in the cut-out cavity in the middle of the construction. At first glance, this sculpture seems like only a wonderful pun, but it has in addition, disturbing elements of futility and madness.

Best of Painting and Drawing was won by Mark Busby with "Untitled," a small abstract watercolor painting in blues and purples. The delicate, spidery lines unite the large areas of color into a delightful whole.

Amy Menerey won Best of Photography with "Shades of Beauty," a black and white tryptich of a family group. The scenes focus on the unity of family, as well as the individuality of each member. The unusual bust portrait of the mother is a powerful statement about the nuturing qualities of motherhood.

My Sweetest Friend

by Jester

Lights shine, eyes blaze
Wander blindly through the haze
Scented streets, painted faces
Remain within your drunken stasis

Blast your mind inside your head
Your eyes seem dull
Your life seems dead

Why my dear did you kill your hate
Why my dear did you seal your fate
So much blood lost, so much seen
To burn itself
Into a dream

MAT-SU BFA CANDIDATES PRESENT SHOW

Kim Donofrio and **Joyce Reynolds,** valley residents and students at MSC, will open their Bachelors of Fine Arts show, ***Oil & Water--Geminated,*** on May 5, at the Art Building Gallery on the UAA campus. The show will run through May 11, Hours are Monday -- Friday 10 am -- 4 pm. The opening reception is Friday, May 5, from 5 pm to 7 pm. The public is invited.

UAA Juried Art Show

The 1995 University of Alaska Anchorage Juried Art Show will open April 20 in the Campus Center Gallery and will run through May 4. Hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. and Tuesday , Thursday noon to 7 P.M.

CHANCELLOR'S AWARDS

UAA Chancellor Lee Gorsuch has selected for nomination five faculty and staff members from Mat-Su College for the 1995 Chancellor's Awards for Excellence. They are: **Bette A. Belanger, Eric A. Blomskog, Barbara R. Hulbert, Elizabeth K. Madsen and Glenn F. Massay.**

Secretary Nominated

Student Government Secretary Michelle McGehee was nominated as Secretary of the Year Friday April 21st. The nomination was to the Professional Secretaries International, Matanuska Chapter in Palmer. Michelle was nominated by members of student government and MSC staff, as well as her counselors and director of our school, Glenn Massay. Her letter of nomination described her dedication to her job over and above her duties. Though Michelle was not selected by the PSI, we still feel that she is our Secretary of the Year. Thank you, Michelle, and Happy Secretaries Week!

HAPPY SUMMER!

FROM THE STAFF OF THE MAT-SU MONITOR

Magic The Gathering

There was a Magic Game held April 21st in the cafeteria. Eighteen players participated in the game, with several interested onlookers. Each of the players received about two booster packs as door prizes, though some people won more. The game ended with two ten-person multiplayer games (ten man emperor games), which was an intense finale'. Everyone had a great time. Anyone interested in Magic can come to the cafeteria, where most of the time there is a game in progress. Magic players are always looking for more opponents.

NOTICES

Adjunct Faculty Banquet April 30, in Machetanz Building Room 106, 3 - 5 pm.

Last **Student Government meeting** Friday May 5 at 4:30 pm, off campus. See Michelle in student government office for details.

Mat- Su Community College Band gives a joint concert with the Anchorage Community Concert Band on Memorial Day. Please watch papers for time and place.

Mat-Su Community Chorus annual spring concert April 28 at the First Presbyterian Church of Wasilla on Bogard Road, 7:30 pm.

Volunteers sought for Wilderness Areas

Imagine spending 12 weeks surveying marine wildlife by sea kayak in Alaska's Chugach National Forest, mapping archaeological sites in the Canyon de Chelly National Monument, banding cranes and songbirds in the Modoc National Wildlife Refuge, or photographing the caves in Idaho's Craters of the Moon National Monument.

These are some of the 1,200 expense-paid positions being offered by the Student Conservation Association (SCA) throughout the year in public lands throughout the United States. Currently SCA is accepting applications for positions offered during the fall season.

SCA's Resource Assistant Program provides a unique opportunity for college students and other adults to help conserve America's public lands and natural and cultural resources.

Working hand-in-hand with natural resource professionals, Resource Assistants (RAs) provide invaluable assistance with land stewardship and wildlife conservation projects in more than 290 national parks and wildlife refuges as well as state and private lands.

More than 15,000 Student Conservation Association Resource Assistants have participated in a variety of conservation and restoration projects since the organization's founding in 1957. Typical assignments include, but are not limited to, air and water quality monitoring, ecological restoration, endangered species protection and natural resource management.

SCA Resource Assistants also have been involved in assessing the damage to plants, wildlife, and shoreline from the major oil spill in Prince William Sound; aiding the fire recovery efforts in Yellowstone National Park; and working with the Puerto Rican Parrot Recovery Project to help save this endangered species from extinction.

The three-month Resource Assistant positions typically include one to two weeks of intensive training on the site at the beginning of the program. Training will be specific to the job performed and may include first aid and safety training.

Program applicants choose from a catalog of detailed position descriptions provided to SCA by cooperating agencies, such as the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Positions in Alaska and Hawaii typically are the most popular.

Although positions are voluntary, SCA Resource Assistants receive funds to cover their travel to and from the site, and food expenses as well as free housing. In exchange, volunteers are expected to work the equivalent of 40 hours per week. There is also plenty of time for exploring, writing, and relaxing in some of America's most beautiful lands.

SCA Resource Assistants must be at least 18 years old. Most are college students exploring careers in conservation, and many earn academic credit for their work experience.

Applications received by June 1, 1995 increase the chance of acceptance for a position in the program. The positions would begin in August and September 1995. Additional opportunities will be available during the winter and spring of 1996.

For more information about the Resource Assistance Program, contact: the Student Conservation Association P.O. Box 550, Charlestown, NH 03603-0550, (603) 543-1700.

Attention: Students and Faculty

Now that spring is here, the snow is melting and uncovering accumulated cigarette butts and trash of the long winter. You may have noticed we security and maintenance personnel have started our spring clean-up of the college grounds. We do not particularly enjoy picking up wet trash and smelly cigarette butts, so any help in keeping your campus clean would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Maintenance

Elizabeth Fallon, Professor of English, will be absent from MSC for the 95/96 school year.

Elizabeth applied for a sabbatical last year and it has been approved. She plans to use the time to continue her graduate work in technical writing.

She will be teaching classes throughout the Summer, but come Fall her name will be missing from the class schedule.

One requirement involved with accepting a sabbatical is that Elizabeth continue to teach for three years after her sabbatical year. This is good news for those who had been hoping to take a class with her. She will be back at MSC with even more to teach us come Fall of 96.

Student BBQ a Great Success!

If you missed the student BBQ that was held in the atrium on Tuesday, April 18, you missed a good time. There was an abundance of food and sweets for all! Some local student musicians provided wonderful entertainment by playing guitar and singing for the crowds of hungry students.

The cooks, servers and musicians did a great job. Sandra Fikes, our activities chair, deserves a round of applause for coordinating the event, as do Shelia, Grace, Dave, and everyone who helped and volunteered their time.

Check it out

from page 2

to refer to your College Bulletin (the "bible" for any college student) you would have found in Chapter 12, page 60, under the heading, Contact Hours, the following statement:

"MSC/UAA academic policy has established the following minimum contact times: Most lecture/discussion courses require a minimum of 750 minutes of contact time and a minimum of 1500 minutes completed outside the classroom to award 1 credit. Some colleges require more than 750 minutes of contact time and more than 1500 minutes completed outside the classroom."

The minimum number of contact minutes is established by the University of Alaska Anchorage within the guidelines of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, the organization through which our college is accredited. The reason for choosing the minimum requirement has a lot to do with an agreement made between the faculty union membership and UAA.

Here, at Mat-Su College, we are careful to see that classes meet this criteria. A 3-credit hour class that meets once a week is required to have a total of 150 contact minutes (2 hours and 30 minutes). A fifteen minute break is added to come up with 2 hours and 45 minutes. A class meeting twice a week, meets for one hour and 15 minutes per class meeting, with no break.

One (1) contact hour is defined as 50 minutes of contact time. This is the minimum requirement for a lecture class. Lab classes require more contact time due to the "hands-on" nature of the class.

UAA is currently reviewing current faculty workloads and the possibility of extending the number of contact minutes per credit hour. Many people feel that the number of contact minutes should be raised to allow for snow days, instructor sick days, etc.

Keep in mind that raising the number of contact minutes also raises the number of minutes of outside work. Some students may not be so anxious to add to their homework load. Also, I do not believe that "learning" can be measured by the number of minutes in the classroom.

I hope this helps to answer your concerns, and to defuse any misunderstanding other students may have as a result of your letter.

Sincerely,
Bette A. Belanger
Administration

Candidate takes a loss gracefully

Dear Editors,

Thank you for all your assistance in the student council elections. As a candidate, I fully appreciate the time and effort put forth by the staff of the Monitor to enhance public awareness of the election process.

The photographs taken by Amy Menerey were an important focal point of the campaign. Students could view the candidates' pictures and put faces to the endless trail of campaign posters.

I also would like to thank all the students that voted for me. Although I lost the election, I want to assure my supporters that I fully intend to resume my position as senator on the council.

I think that the council is important and its benefits would be nil without the support of active student voices. Congratulations to the winners, Dave and Paula, and good luck.

Sincerely,
Grace Wilson-Laudun
Senator, MSCSGC

Newly elected president invites all to get involved with Student Government

As the newly elected president of MSC Student Government, I would like to thank all those who voted; this year's voter turn-out set a new record for attendance.

While campaigning, I was repeatedly asked the question: "What does the student government actually do?"

First, the student government is a recognized voice that speaks for the concerns of all MSC students. If you have a school-related problem, or an idea that might benefit the school, the student government provides an avenue to address these needs.

Secondly, the student government provides monies to help fund many student related services such as the Christmas Ball, graduation ceremonies, school BBQs, the MAGIC card game, concerts, floats in the State Fair Parade, a new computer progam for printing this newspaper, and such.

Above all else, the student government is here for YOU. We meet every other Friday at 4:30 in room 108 (adjacent to Barb Carney's office). Come attend a meeting; sometimes we even order pizza and the door is always open.

Dave Huycke,
President Elect

With much appreciation

To the students, faculty, and staff of Mat-Su College,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all of you for the outstanding support, both moral and financial, which allowed me to accompany my wife to Travis AFB, California. I will never forget any of you in my prayers.

The outpouring of love and care for my family has convinced me that people do still care about people even with the turmoil going on in the world today.

My wife Becky and I have returned to Alaska and the prognosis for her is excellent. She is still in for a lot of tough treatments but is holding up well.

The particular type of tumor that nearly took the life of my wife is prevalent in women of northern tier areas.

Please have regular check ups to insure your continued health for the benefit of yourself and your family.

Again, thank you for your support in our time of need.

Most sincerely from all the Robersons; Ron, Becky, Jamie, Shannon, Keith, and Tanya.

Mark Ewing, President of the Mat-Su Student Government, will be leaving us after this term. Mark is graduating this spring with an A.A.S. in Electronics Technology.

He has served the students for 2 years. During his involvement with the student government, Mark has been active in creating a greater public awareness of MSC and its needs and concerns.

He began the now traditional MSC float in the State Fair, and was the first president to keep the student government operating throughout the summer months.

Shelia Keyser has dutifully served MSC as Student Government Vice President during the 94/95 school year.

While in office, Shelia has been instrumental in various activities. She successfully organized the NET mini-conference held last December. She serves on the instructional council, served on the program assessment committee, and has contributed her services for many community volunteer activities.

Attending class is a must

by Joan Tower

"How would you feel if your physician cut class on the day training was given in the detection of melanoma cancers and subsequently mis-diagnosed the seriousness of your cancer?"

The degree you acquire from Mat-Su College implies that you have learned the material required for that degree. When your instructor hands out a course syllabus at the beginning of the semester, the syllabus is a contract between the instructor and the student. Class attendance is often a requirement.

Mat-Su College students are encouraged to attend all classes in which they are enrolled. Policies of the college are clearly written and placed in prominent places for all students free of charge.

Many students argue that they are adults; therefore, they do not feel attending classes is necessary for a good education.

Winston Churchill emphasized that "responsibility is the price of greatness." The phrase irresponsible adult is an oxymoron; to be an adult implies being responsible.

Columnist Judith Klienfeld reasons that adolescents with dependable, confident, intelligent foresight turned out to be more successful in their work lives 30 years later.

In mathematics, when one class builds on another, it is especially important to attend all lectures. A little ditty that I learned from my mother when I was young illustrates how one thing builds on another:

For want of a nail, a shoe was lost.
For want of a shoe, a horse was lost.
For want of a horse, a rider was lost.
For want of a rider, a battle was lost.
For want of a battle, a kingdom was lost,
and all for the want of a horseshoe nail.

Although some students can pass all their tests from studying books, they lose out on the socialization skills obtained from interaction with other students and faculty if they miss classes.

In classes requiring group projects, it is especially important to attend class to be fair to the students who do attend class regularly.

Most students have been in a class which requires a group project. When some students in the group routinely miss class, the ones that do attend suffer, and consequently their grade suffers.

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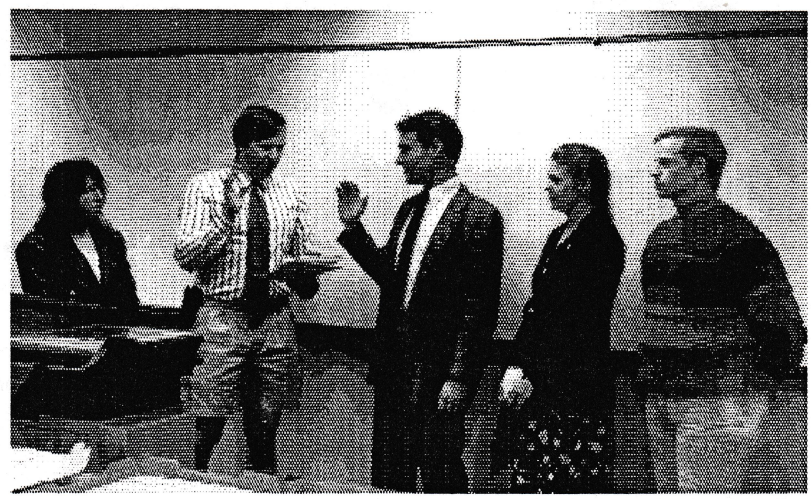

The new class President, Vice President, and Sergeant-at-Arms are sworn in during a Student Government meeting. From left to right are; Shelia Keyser, current Vice President; Mark Ewing, current President; Dave Huyke, newly elected President, Paula Holley, newly elected Vice President, and Dennis Carraher, newly elected Sergeant-at-Arms. The new officers will assume office later this summer.

Attending class

from page 7

My only consolation to this was expressed by Benjamin Franklin, who said, "If a man empties his purse into his head, no man can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest."

People themselves are responsible for reading the course catalog and obtaining the information needed to maximize the worth of their college degree. A student's failure to properly prepare for his profession could have grave consequences for someone else. It would be advisable for Mat-Su College students to make it a responsible habit to attend their classes.

Instructors Honored

from page 1

celebrities and sports heros as role models these days, but two excellent role models can be found in room 103 of Snodgrass Hall.

On behalf of all the students that Carolyn Covington and Gloria Hensel have assisted, I'd like to say "Thank you."

Commencement for Graduation will be held in the gymnasium at Colony Middle School, Friday, May 12, at 7:00 pm. A rehearsal will be held on Wednesday, May 10.

New Editor Requests Applications

The new editor of the Mat-Su Monitor, Amy Menerey, is requesting applications for the following positions for the 95/96 school year:

Assistant Editor: Learn publishing program, assist editor in organizing and incorporating information into final product.

Copy Editor: Proofread all copy for errors in spelling, grammar, and research. Assist editor and/or assistant editor with final production of paper.

Arts & Entertainment Reporter: Report on all art related activities at Mat-Su and UAA, as well as upcoming related outside events; reviews and criticism, cover art club meetings. Must be involved in the arts, any medium, with knowledge of basic principles of method and design.

Science Reporter: Report on new scientific discoveries: or relate interesting scientific facts. Interest and understanding of science necessary.

History/Current Events Reporter: Report on current issues, especially those of importance to student body, as well as connections to past history. Interest in history, knowledge of politics and government necessary.

Student Government Reporter: Report on all aspects of student government; meetings, committees, etc. Must attend student government meetings regularly, but cannot hold a position with student government.

Computer/Internet Reporter: Report on new advances in technology, computer club, items of interest to all who use the computers or internet, cover computer club meetings. Must have extensive computer knowledge.

Faculty and Staff Interviewer: Regularly interview faculty and staff on campus. Find out interest, background, future plans; get to know...

None of the above positions are paid or for credit at this time. I would like to see these positions filled by those interested in expanding their knowledge and experience, with a desire to make our Student Newspaper a successful, interesting piece of Journalism that is capable of expanding into further possibilities. Anyone with any suggestions or comments about possible columns or positions may contact me in the Student Government/Monitor office, by leaving a written message in the Monitor mailbox, by writing me on the VAX at PSAJM, or by calling me at 376-7752.

Quote of the Month

You know a dream's like a river ever changing as it flows,
And a dreamer's just a vessel that must follow where it goes.
Trying to learn from what's behind you never knowing what's in store,
Makes each day a constant battle just to stay between the shores.
And I will sail my vessel 'til the river runs dry, like a bird upon the wind
These waters are my sky. I'll never reach my destination
If I never try, so, I will sail my vessel 'til the river runs dry.

From "The River"
Garth Brooks